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WIRKSWORTH.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR

1944.

WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1944.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Report for the Year 1944.

Wirksworth is a market town in the centre of an agricultural area, which is largely milk-producing. It is situated on limestone and limestone quarrying forms one of the principal industries of the place. Tape-weaving is another industry, and three mills afford employment of this description.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 4,015.
Population: Census (1939) 4,822.
R.G. figures (1942) 4,480, (1944) 4,514.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1,440.
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers 1,443.
This figure is variable owing to the influx and efflux of evacuees etc. and only a survey of the entire district would find out the exact population and separate families;
Rateable Value, £21,928.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £82.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
<u>Live Births</u>	- Legitimate	- 93)	105	54	39
	- Illegitimate	- 12)		6	6
<u>Still Births</u>	- Legitimate	- 1)	1	1	0
	- Illegitimate	- 0)			
	Birth Rate		23.26		
			<u>Total</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
<u>Deaths,</u>			54	26	28
	Death Rate	- -	12.05		

No. of Women dying in/or in consequence of childbirth -
 From Sepsis - 0 From other causes - 0

Death of Infants under 1 year of age:-

Total - 3. Legitimate - 3. Illegitimate - 0
 Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live births - 28.54

England and Wales - Infantile Death Rate.....46
 Birth Rate.....17.6
 Death Rate.....11.6

Deaths from Cancer {all ages}.....6
 " " Measles { " " }.....0
 " " Whooping Cough.....1
 " " Diarrhoea (under two years of age) 1
 " " Scarlet Fever.....0
 " " Diphtheria.....0

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1							1	
5				1				
10				1				
15								
20						1		
25		1						
35								
45								
55	1				1			
65 and upwards	1							
TOTALS	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	0


PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No notifications of Tuberculosis have been received in respect of those engaged in the Milk Trade, and no action has been required.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

No action has been taken under this section during 1944.

The notification of Tuberculosis appears to be satisfactory.



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Other Infectious Diseases notified (other than Tuberculosis) are shown in the following table:-

Disease	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.....	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	21	21	0
Diphtheria.....	0	0	0
Enteric Fever.....	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever.....	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	4	3	0
Pneumonia.....	16	5	4
Measles.....	0	0	0
Chickenpox.....	2	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	0	0	0
Erysipelas.....	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	0	0	0
Acute Polio-Myelitis.....	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	0	0	0

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified	Treated in Hospital.	Vision.	Deaths.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

The response to prophylactic inoculation against Diphtheria has been quite good. At the end of '1944, 90.4% of children between the ages of 1 & 5 had been inoculated, and of those between 5 & 15, 82% had been treated. I would again stress the importance of this treatment, and I hope for a continued response in 1945.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

HOSPITALS :

A cottage Hospital in the town, which is dependent largely on voluntary subscriptions, affords in-patient and out-patient general treatment. Provision is also made for Maternity cases, but the accommodation for this class, is far below requirements, and there is a real need for increased maternity accommodation in the district. This Hospital participates in the Derbyshire Hospitals' Contributory Association.

The Royal Infirmary, Women's Hospital, and Children's Hospital, Derby, are all included in the Derbyshire Hospitals' Contributory Association.

1. Professional Nursing in the Home.
 - (a) General - None.
 - (b) Infectious Diseases - None.
2. Midwife.
 - (a) One under the supervision of the County Authority.
3. Clinics and Treatment Centres.
 - (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Matlock provided by and under the control of the Derbyshire County Council. There is also a Child Welfare Centre in Wirksworth.
 - (b) Day Nurseries - None.
 - (c) School Clinics at the Elementary Schools in Wirksworth provided by the Derbyshire County Council.
 - (d) Tuberculosis at the Tuberculosis Department, New County Offices, Derby, and also at the Tuberculosis Clinic, Matlock, provided by the Derbyshire Council.
 - (e) Venereal Disease at the Royal Infirmary, Derby. provided by the Derbyshire County Council.
4. Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or by the County Council.
 - (a) Tuberculosis - Derbyshire Sanatorium, outside the district provided by the County Council.
 - (b) Maternity - Accommodation is provided at the Cottage Hospital, but as I have already mentioned, is far below requirements.
 - (c) Children - None.
 - (d) Fever - Heage Isolation, outside the District, to which the Local Authority contributes its share.
 - (e) Smallpox - Heage Isolation, outside the District.
5. Institutional provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Children, and Homeless Children - None.
6. Ambulance Facilities.
 - (a) For infectious cases, provided by the Heage Isolation Hospital.
 - (b) For non-infectious and accident cases.
 - (i) St. John Motor Ambulance, stationed at Matlock.
 - (ii) Matlock Motor Ambulance, stationed at Matlock.
 - (iii) Wirksworth Motor Ambulance, stationed at Wirksworth.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are made by the County Council Bacteriological Department.

Number of Specimens sent to the County Laboratory by private practitioners during 1943:-

	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria.....	0	4	4
Enterio Fever.....	0	0	0
Phthisis.....	1	1	2
Miscellaneous.....	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	5	6

The Local Authority provides Diphtheria Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxin free of Cost. A supply is kept by the Medical Officer of Health, who renders an account of its use to the Local Authority.

The following quantities were issued during 1944 :-

Diphtheria Antitoxin	-	4 vials, each containing 4,000 units.
Tetanus Antitoxin	-	2.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

	Date of Adoption.
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	6th. December, 1893.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, Part III. (subject to certain conditions as to Sects. 35 & 38 Order L.G.B. No. 59992, of 22nd. January, 1913)	20th. December, 1902. 5th. March, 1913.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907 (subject to certain conditions as to Sects, 25, 27 & 30 Order L.G.B. NO. 63662, 29th. May, 1915)	12th. July, 1915.

Bye-Laws:-

New Streets and Buildings	- 1939
Common Lodging-Houses	- 1879
Nuisances	- 1879
Cleaning Footways, Removal of House Refuse & Cleaning Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools	- 1879

Shop Acts, 1912 -28

25th. August, 1930

do. 1934

26th. November, 1934.

Offensive Trades Order of L.G.B.?
No.63721, of 18th June, 1915,
confirming Council's Order of
26th. April, 1915, containing
list of offensive trades

26th. April, 1915.

Chicken Pox Compulsory Notification
Order for Compulsory Notification

22nd. February, 1926.

Public Health Act, 1925, Parts II.
to IV., except Sections 21, 22
and 44.

2nd. May, 1927.

Shop Acts 1934, came into operation by adoption 1936.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The first half of the year was attended with difficulties owing to the Pump & Engine at Wigwell being overhauled and not being completed till well into June. Later, the position was very good and the supply of water satisfactory.

The Booster Pump installation in the Via Gillia has proved satisfactory, the supply at Middleton being exceptionally good, and constant, throughout the year.

Leakages have been sought, found & repaired throughout the district. Mains have been laid at the Road Crossings on the New Housing Site, Derby Road.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The length of flat gradient main sewer between Cinder Lane and the outfall works, has been thoroughly scraped & cleaned of silt.

Regular attention is being paid to the employing of existing silt pits, in an attempt to avoid excessive silting of the sewer in the future.

At the Derby Road post-war Housing Site (98 houses), separate surface water drains are being laid to avoid excessive surcharges of the main sewer, referred to above.

HOUSING.

The Council joined the Ilkeston Group for the Advance Preparation of Housing Sites, and work was commenced on the Derby Road Housing Site in September.

During the period of war, not much, unfortunately, can be done in regard to social improvement, but one can look forward to the post-war stages, and make plans for the future. Increased & improved housing is required in many places throughout the country, and in this district the position is being tackled. Along with housing goes artificial lighting, heating and cooking facilities. The Gas supply in parts of this district is extremely unsatisfactory, a condition which should be rectified as soon as circumstances permit.

I have already mentioned the matter of Maternity accommodation. The existing service at the local Hospital, has, I think, been much appreciated, but many cases have, in the past, had to find accommodation outside the district, and I personally wish that we were in a position to cater, in the district, for as many as possible, desiring Hospital care.

Regarding Professional Nursing in the Home, there is no provision for a General Nurse, and I consider that in a district of this size, it is very essential, and I recommend this service for your consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W.S.G. CHRISTIE.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Sanitary Inspector.
J.W. Stevens, M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., M.R.SAN. I.

- (1) No. of houses converted from Privy Middens, etc., to Water Closets during the year 1944. - 2.
No. of Privy Middens etc., converted to Water Closets during the past 10 years :-

Year -	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
No. -	31	19	7	13	11	15	5	54	5	2

- (2) Approximate Number of Houses at 31st December with:

(a)	Privy Middens	69
(b)	Pail Closets	128
(c)	Water Closets	1225

- (3) Work of the Sanitary Inspector under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926:

Area of District, 4,015 acres.
Estimated No. of Houses inhabited 1,440.
New Houses erected 1943.

- (a) By Local Authority) Nil
(b) By Private Enterprise)

<u>CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.</u>	No. of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	No. of Legal Notices served by Local Authority.	No. of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for conversion)	-	-	-
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	-	-	2
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	-	-	1
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets	-	-	1
Defective Water Closets	-	-	1
Provision of additional W.C.'s	-	-	1

Provision of Portable Ashbins.....	23	-	23
Dirty Closets.....	-	-	-
<u>DRAINAGE.</u>			
No Disconnection of waste Pipe.....	-	-	-
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps Inlets and Drains.....	2	-	2
Drains Obstructed.....	8	-	8
Alteration of drain.....	-	-	-
<u>OTHER DEFECTS</u>			
Paving of Courts and Yards.....	-	-	-
Roofs, Eaves and Down-Spouts.....	2	-	2
Sinks.....	-	-	-
Insufficient Ventilation.....	-	-	-
Windows.....	-	-	-
Dampness.....	1	-	1
Water in Cellars.....	-	-	-
Water Supply, Burst Pipes and Defective Taps.....	-	-	-
Overcrowding.....	-	-	-
Foul condition of Houses.....	-	-	-
Offensive Accumulation.....	2	-	2
Animals improperly kept.....	-	-	-
Pigstyes.....	-	-	-
Smoke Nuisances.....	-	-	-
Unrinals.....	-	-	-
Nuisances not specified above.....	10	-	10

	Number on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without Notices.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	56	-	-	-
Bakehouses	4	8	-	2
Slaughter Houses	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	64	8	-	2

Infected Rooms Disinfected, 32. Method: Fumigation.

Sewage effluents taken quarterly by County Council. Satisfactory.

Unsound Food.

Small parcels of various canned foods have been surrendered.

Milk Samples Analysed: Analysis now mainly carried out in
conjunction with County Agricultural Committee.

(4) Inspection of places where food is prepared:

	<u>Inspections made</u>
(a) Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	-
(b) Bakehouses	8
(c) Slaughter Houses	-
(d) Offensive Trades	-
Total	<u>8</u>

(5) Number and condition of Slaughter Houses registered or licensed.

	<u>1944</u>
Registered	3.
Licensed	1.

The Slaughter Houses are not in use during the war. All meat is supplied from Derby. Bones are salvaged by the Council.

(6) Arrangements for Disinfection and Disinfestation and the extent of their use:

Upon the recovery of a patient from infectious disease, or the removal of a patient to hospital, the infected rooms are disinfected with Formalin Vapour, and if necessary, the clothing and bedding sent to Heage Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.

(7) Action taken with regard to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops:-

Every Cowkeeper, Dairyman and Purveyor of Milk in the district is registered.

The numbers on the Registers are as follows:-

Retail Purveyors of Milk	57
Wholesale Traders and Producers	57

(8) Action taken under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts and the Milk and Cream Regulations.

The Council is not a Local Authority under these Acts.

(9) Action taken with a view to Smoke Abatement:- NIL.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR ON
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

The following is a summary of the Factories on the Register in your District.

These premises have been kept under observation, and the respective sanitary condition of each has invariably been found satisfactory.

SUMMARY.

Factories -

Bakehouses.....	4
Blacksmiths.....	2
Boot Repairers.....	2
Bottling Stores, Wine and Spirits.....	1
Building Contractors.....	5
Cabinet Makers.....	2
Cycle Repairers.....	2
Dressmakers.....	2
Gas Works.....	1
Hosiery.....	1
Milliners.....	1
Monumentalists.....	2
Motor Repairers.....	1
Painters, Decorators and Plumbers.....	5
Printers.....	2
Saddlers.....	1
Stone Quarries.....	5
Tailors.....	1
Tape Works.....	6
Tin Plate Workers.....	1
Wagon Repairers.....	1
Waterworks.....	1
Whitesmith.....	1

PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

The House Refuse Collection, at the time I took up my duties, was found to be in a disorganised condition.

The work is now being carried out satisfactorily.

The Council's Refuse Lorry makes a weekly collection of waste paper from business premises, also from salvage bins placed in various parts of the district.

Collection of waste paper from shops is satisfactory, but the quantity of salvage collected from the bins is very small, particularly those placed for the reception of bones.

J.W. STEVENS

Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

W.S.G. CHRISTIE, M.B., Ch.B.,

Part time. Half salary contributed.

Sanitary Inspector.

J. W. STEVENS,

Full time. Half Salary contributed.

Engineer and Surveyor to the Council.

Water Engineer and Bailiff.

K. HARRISON,

HOUSING.

No. of Houses erected during the year:-

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------|
| (a) | Total | Nil. |
| (b) | As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme | NIL. |

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... Nil

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... Nil

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925..... Nil

Housing Acts suspended during the war.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... Nil

(3) (a) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to Health as to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil

(4) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Nil.

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers..... Nil

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

A. - Proceedings under Sections 9 and 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

- (a) By owners..... Nil
- (b) By local authority in default of owners..... -

B. - Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

- (a) By owners..... Nil
- (b) By local authority in default of owners..... -

C. - Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil

Housing Act, 1936:

Notices served under S.11..... -
Ditto S. 9..... -

Housing
Acts
Sus-
pended
during
the war

WATER SUPPLY DURING THE YEAR, 1944.

Month.	RAINFALL.		1944 inches.	Yield Of Springs in Gallons Per Hour.	
	1942 inches.	1943 inches.		1943	1944
January	5.33	4.62	3.79	-	4928
February	3.53	1.24	2.04	-	5912
March	3.76	.60	.30	-	6404
April	1.72	1.42	2.35	-	4682
May	4.98	5.24	1.40	3440	3698
June	.54	1.93	2.33	2960	2960
July	2.82	1.40	3.68	2591	2591
August	3.69	3.43	2.80	2345	2339
September	1.35	3.64	4.94	2222	3329
October	2.27	1.79	3.98	2162	3452
November	2.04	2.86	6.04	2714	8372
December	3.16	1.29	2.60	3206	14,276
TOTAL	34.96	29.46	36.25	2,705 Average Per Month for 8 Months.	5245 Average Per Month.

K. HARRISON.

WATER ENGINEER AND BAILIFF.

